



Queen Anne Cobblestone

The Newsletter of the Queen Anne Historical Society, Seattle, WA

March, 2006

Historical Marker Program Goes Public

by John DeRosa

The Queen Anne Historical Society is happy to announce that the **Historical Marker Program** is now open for business! You've seen other towns where the historical houses will carry a marker indicating when they were built. It's time to show our own history, to celebrate Queen Anne's heritage.

The **Historical Marker Program** has been created to increase public awareness of our community's history, and to create a historical database through the efforts of individual homeowners. Qualifying homeowners will submit an application giving details of their home's history.

An approved application results in a certificate from the Society, and the option to purchase a special bronze marker for your home. The homeowner can take pride in his house and in its historical record. The Society will acquire a permanent record of the house for future historical research.

Any building in Queen Anne is eligible for the program—if it was built prior to 1950, is fundamentally faithful to the original architecture and design, and shows a well-kept and cared-for appearance. Neither the house nor original owner has to be historically significant.

The marker is made of bronze,

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CEMETERIES—OUR LAST ADDRESS THE GARDEN CEMETERY IN AMERICA WED. MAR. 22ND, 7:30 PM

In the mid-19th century burial plots moved out of crowded, foul and overflowing city church yards and found more attractive surroundings in the country. The graveyard, to be avoided, was replaced by a garden setting and a romanticized view of death. Mount Pleasant Cemetery on Queen Anne Hill is one of these garden cemeteries.

The March meeting of the Queen Anne Historical Society will feature a multi-media presentation of the rise of the Garden Cemetery movement, using Mount Pleasant as our local example. The Society gives tours of Mount Pleasant to school groups and to the public each year and this presentation will provide you with a better understanding of this movement and why our cemeteries look the way they do. A valuable introduction to one of our future tours.

Join your neighbors at this interesting public meeting!

Wednesday, Mar. 22, 7:30 pm

McClure Middle School Library

First Ave W. and W. Crockett
St.

The meeting is free and open to the public. It begins at 7:30 pm at McClure Middle School library, 1915 1st Ave. West on Queen Anne. For more information, contact John Hennes at 206-284-2266.



A scene in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery.
Photo by John Hennes



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The QAHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by Federal law.

The Archives of the Society are located in Bayview Manor,

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MEMBERSHIP NOTICE

NOTICE! Thank you for having renewed your membership for 2005-2006. **Your mailing label shows the year your current membership expires.** If your label shows (2006EXP) it means your membership runs through May 2006. **Guess what? We're coming up on the May 2006 renewal period for 2006-07.** For more information contact Membership Chair, Nadine Belcher, at 206-284-8369.*Thanks for helping make this a great organization!*

CALENDAR OF

Wed. Mar. 22, 2006

Program: Cemeteries—Our Last Address: The Garden Cemetery in America, McClure Middle School Library, 7:30 pm. Free. (See p. 1)

Sat. May 13, 2006

Special Event: National Preservation Month Historic Marker Program Event. Formal kick-off with a public presentation. Time and place to be determined. Watch the QAHS web site (www.qahistory.org) or call John DeRosa at 206-282-3842.

Wed. May 24, 2006

Program: A Portrayal of Catharine Payne Blaine, Seattle's First Teacher, by Debbie Dimitre. This live performance, by a well known local actress, brings our past to life. The Society's Annual Meeting, at McClure Middle School Library, 7:30 pm. Free.

Sat. June 17, 2006

Walking Tour: The annual tour of Mt. Pleasant Cemetery. 3:00 pm. Note the new, late afternoon start time. 7th Ave. W. and W. Raye St. Free.

Our Hidden History

When was the last time you saw streetcar tracks on Queen Anne? The Seattle streetcars disappeared in 1940-41. The photo here was taken on March 5th, looking east along Olympic Place West. The ongoing resurfacing of 10th W and Olympic Pl. W has revealed brick road surfaces, cobblestones, and now the original tracks.

Most tracks throughout Seattle were removed. These tracks seem to be set in concrete and would be difficult to extricate.

It was hoped that they could be

saved for decorative use in the new Counterbalance Park. Alas, not possible. Are there other such



Streetcar tracks on Olympic Place West before their recovering with new paving.

Photo by John Hennes

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Queen Anne Historical Society is to record and preserve, in permanent form, the history of the settling of the Queen Anne community and to develop within the community an appreciation and concern for its history and its historical sites.

(Continued from page 1)

measures about 8" x 11", and weighs about 9 lbs. Designed by Bruce Jones, the marker is manufactured for the Society by the Erie Landmark Company, which specializes in casting markers of this type.

Four Queen Anne homeowners have helped us work out the kinks in the submission and approval process, and the very first application has just been approved! Historical Certificate and Marker #1 has been issued to **Rosemary Daszkiewicz and Guy Thomas of 1701 4th Ave North.**



1701 4th Ave N. The first house accepted into the QAHS Historical Marker Program.

Photo courtesy of R. Daszkiewicz.

Their home has a colorful history, including its use in interior scenes of the movie, "Sleepless in Seattle." The first owner, O.B. Williams, lived in the home with his wife and son while running a successful Seattle-based window and door company. He designed the house himself.

On **May 13** we will be holding a **National Preservation Month Historic Marker Program Event** to publicly acknowledge this new program. The event is being held in cooperation with **Historic Seattle**. Details are still in work.

If you would like to know more about the Historical Marker Program, including viewing the current nominees, downloading the application package or seeing details about the May 13 program, please visit <http://www.qahistory.org/hmp>. If you have any questions, email us at markerprogram@qahistory.org, or call the chair of the program, John DeRosa at 206-282-3842.

HERITAGE NEWS

Treat House Status

Preservation efforts for the Treat House at 1 West Highland Drive are continuing. The nomination for a Seattle Landmark designation was submitted in mid-February by Mimi Sheridan and Bruce Jones. A schedule for the Landmarks Board review has not yet been set. The outcome is still much in



Rosemary Daszkiewicz (right) receives the first marker from Historic Marker Program committee members (l-r) John DeRosa (Chairperson), Bruce Jones and Trish Nicola. (Missing: committee member Holly Smith.)

Photo by Susan Jones

Yes, I want to join the Queen Anne Historical Society in preserving our community's heritage and promoting the public's understanding of its past.

Name _____ Tel. _____

Address _____

City _____, State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Member Category: (check one)

☐ Individual \$15 ☐ Patron \$50 - \$199

☐ Family \$20 ☐ Benefactor \$200 &

up ☐ Student/Senior \$8 ☐ Contribution only, \$ _____

☐ I would like to become active in the Society.

The QAHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Donations are deductible to the extent permitted by Federal law.

Return with payment to: Queen Anne Historical Society,

Yes, I want to order the Society's book, *Queen Anne—Community on the Hill*.

I understand that mailing costs will be added.

Prices are:

Soft cover: \$25

(\$20 for members)

Hard cover: \$45

(\$40 for members)

Please send me the following:

Soft cover qty: _____

Soft cover cost: \$ _____

Hard cover qty: _____

Hard cover cost: \$ _____

Mailing costs at \$3/book:

Queen Anne Historical Society
PO Box 19432
Seattle, WA 98109-1432

Coming up: Cemeteries—Our Last Address. Wed. Mar. 22nd, 7:30 pm at McClure Middle School.

KIM'S MUSINGS

The '49 Earthquake

I've been corresponding (via email) with a woman who grew up mainly on Capitol Hill and Blake Island. We were remembering the 1949 Earthquake and where we were at the time, and how it all felt, what happened in our lives as a result. I have maintained for years that your first earthquake is the one by which you judge all successive ones. I should reflect that I mean the first one of which you are totally aware. I experienced an earthquake in 1946 which I didn't (and still don't) remember.

April 13, 1949, was the day I was measured and fitted with my first pair of glasses, at a small clinic on First Hill, run by Dr. Wightman and his nurse, Miss Cutting. I have never forgotten either of them, as they took care of all my glasses needs until Dr. Wightman's death (around 1960). We left the clinic and took a bus downtown where we were to meet a family friend, Jo Renner, for lunch at Rhodes. We were in the women's lounge when the earthquake hit.

My sister remembers Mother pushing each of us into some open fabric cupboards where we rode out the first part of the quake, then sat with us on the large sofa to wait and see if anything more was going to occur. The windows had fallen out and lay smashed on the street below, and there were areas where plaster had fallen from the ceiling, but we were seated directly under the big arch which separated the lounge from

the store proper, and after a time took the stairs down to the main floor. I don't remember that we ever connected with Jo that day. She later married Richard Morken and still lives in her home on Magnolia.

We took either a 3 or 4 Seattle Transit bus home. That is, to 5th North and Valley, from where we walked the rest of the way home. This would be a walk west on Aloha, past the School Administration building, and all the way over to Third Avenue North. Our house, just to the right and below the stairs which connect Third North with Ward Street, was a ca. 1910 modified craftsman-style house.

We walked into the house, and there was no damage. The chimney had not been loosened by the quake, and, although the downstairs bathroom medicine cabinet was sprung open, nothing had fallen out. None of the mantel ornaments had fallen, and there was not a single thing lost due to the quake. To this day I maintain that the south slope of Queen Anne Hill is the safest place to live, and I would willingly move back there if I could afford a place.

That was my first memorable earthquake, and was followed a month later by the death of my dad. When you are young you don't expect your dad to go to work in the morning and never come home again.

Anyone else with some earthquake memories to share?

Kim R. Turner, Research Chair

us, and lived with us for the next two years. They really didn't like Fairbanks. Too cold.

Isn't it time you became more involved with the Queen Anne Historical Society?

Join the Board of Trustees! Help out in the archives! Call John Hennes at (206) 284-2266

for more details about how you can share in making and keeping Queen Anne's history.